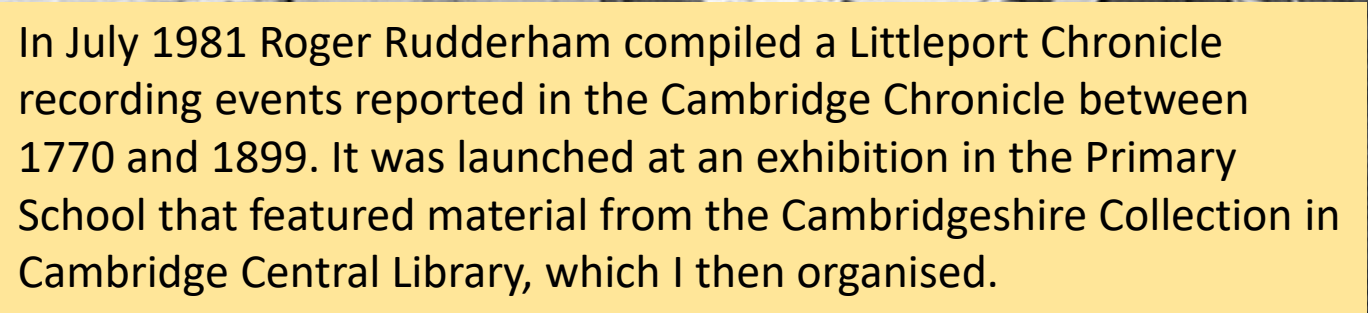


A Fenland History Saver Shares All:
 a presentation to
 The Littleport Society, March 2023
 by Mike Petty



MADRID, May 30.—Since the time when I and Isabella began to create in Spain a maritime, it never has been so deplorable as it is at the present time. It is not only the navy, but the whole of Spain must go back to the 16th century. King Charles IV. had the incorrect weakness to conclude an offensive and defensive alliance with England, and he was so ignorant that he was not even aware of the fact that England had the right to demand that all the misfortunes of our navy and army should be repaired. It was then composed of 85 ships of the line, of which 20 were destroyed from 80 to 130 guns. Sixty per cent of the army was killed, and the remainder was actually in a state of complete demoralization. The infantry of the marine consisted of 12 battalions, each of 1,000 men; an artillery of 20 brigades, making 5,000 men; the military engineers numbered 1,000 men; the fleet of Ferrol, had immense docks, arsenals, and magazines, amply furnished with every thing necessary for the service of the navy. Those of La Coruña and Cádiz were also well equipped. When we visited them, our alliance with France, an unjust invasion, which was one of the fatal consequences of it, have destroyed every thing, and left nothing but a sad and desolate ruin, and there is not timber sufficient in the arse build four ships of war. The infantry and ar-

The idea of indexing of such stories was prompted following a visit from a Haddenham WEA group. Other volunteers enabled the news for every Cambridgeshire village in the Cambridge Chronicle from 1770 to 1899 to be indexed. The index was included in the *National Inventory of Documentary Sources*.

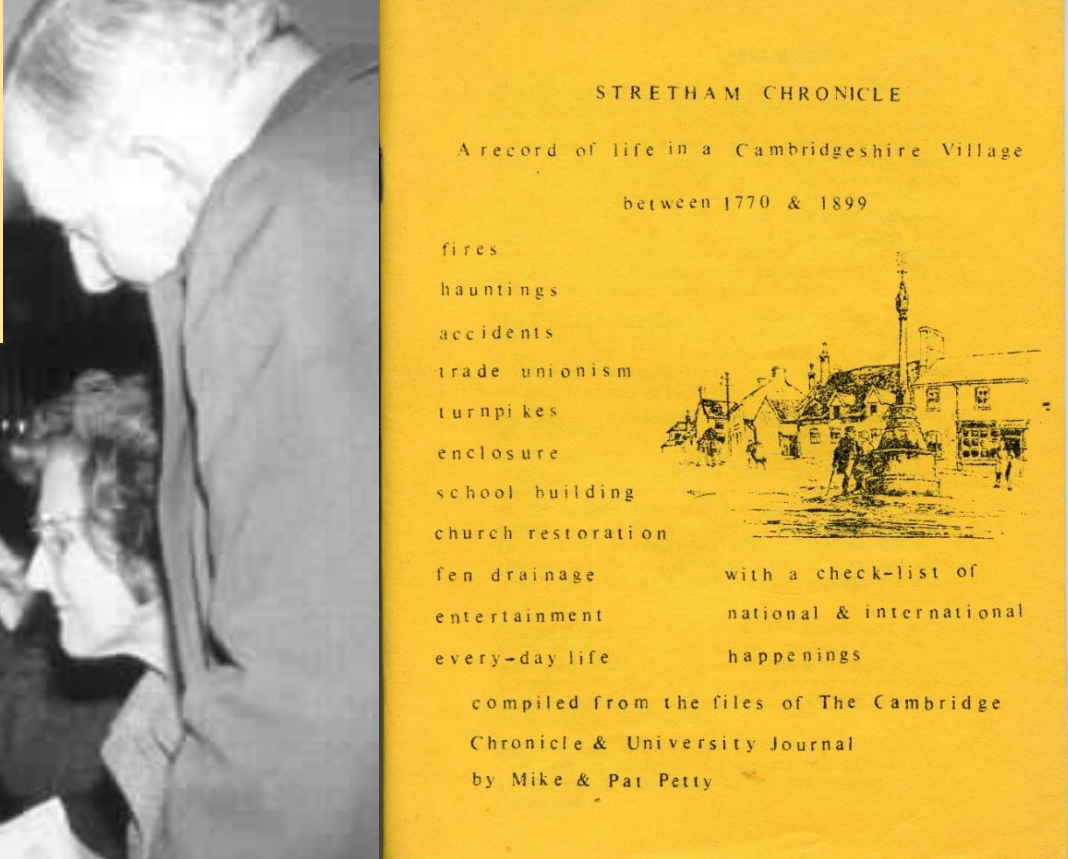
Many stories were transcribed and published in 'Village Chronicles'



HADWYCK-HEALEY						National Inventory of Documentary Sources in the UK & Ireland		0.082.004
						Cambridgeshire Collection: News Index: Subjects		1 of 5
1	2	3	4	5	6	7		



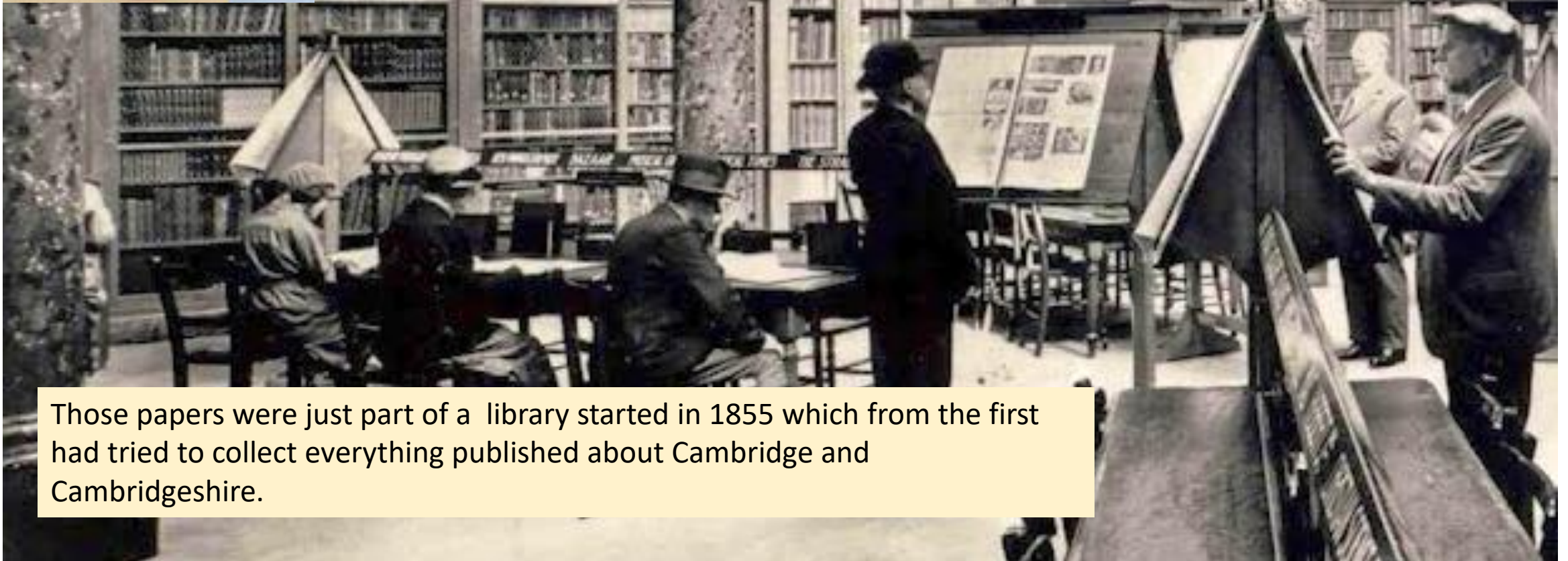
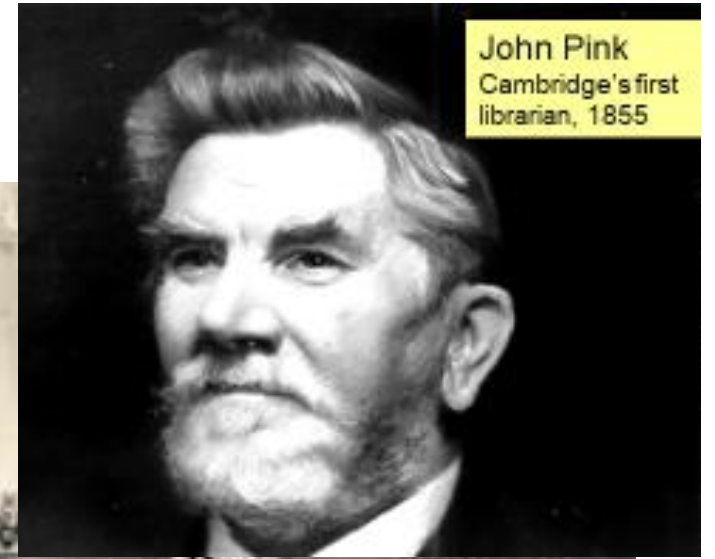
A similar project organised by staff at Wisbech Library indexed files of the Wisbech Standard between 1894 and 1905



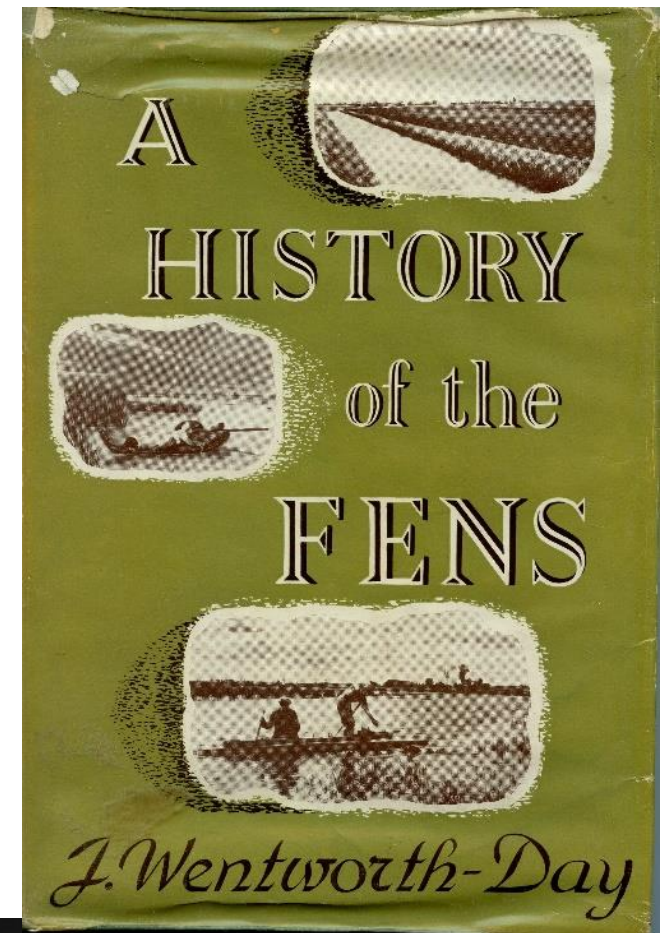
Charles Henry Cooper
compiler of *Annals of
Cambridge*



John Pink
Cambridge's first
librarian, 1855

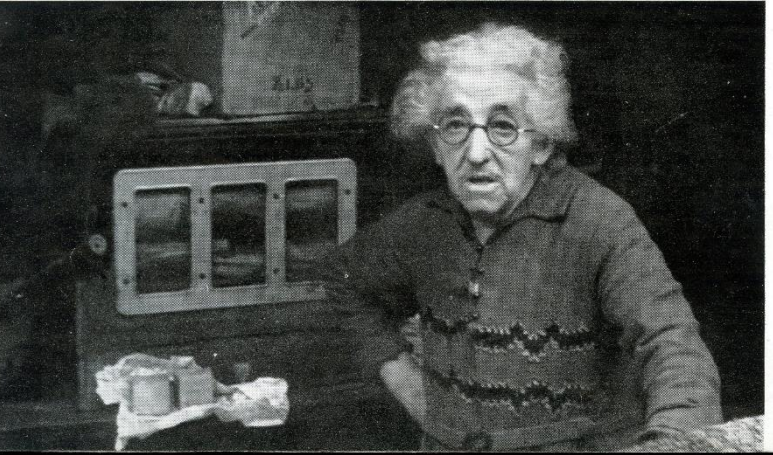


Those papers were just part of a library started in 1855 which from the first had tried to collect everything published about Cambridge and Cambridgeshire.



That Cambridgeshire material was by 1964 hidden away in a back room, largely forgotten. Over a period of ten years I read and catalogued each book and pamphlet

Walter Martin Lane gave the Collection his photos of the fen floods of 1947. These were shared with residents and their memories recorded. The photos and stories have been featured on tv and radio. <https://archive.org/details/mpc-32a-soundings-1947-flood.-1995>
<https://archive.org/details/great-flood-of-1947-lester-milbank-1997>





In 1975, following Local Government Reorganisation, a Cambridgeshire Collection suite on the third floor of a new Central Library in Lion Yard where the resources could be appreciated. It brought opportunities that were not realised. The new 'combined' Cambridgeshire Libraries was divided into areas with no opportunity for co-ordination of the local studies resources., <https://archive.org/details/PettyM.J.TheAlbatrossInheritance.1985>

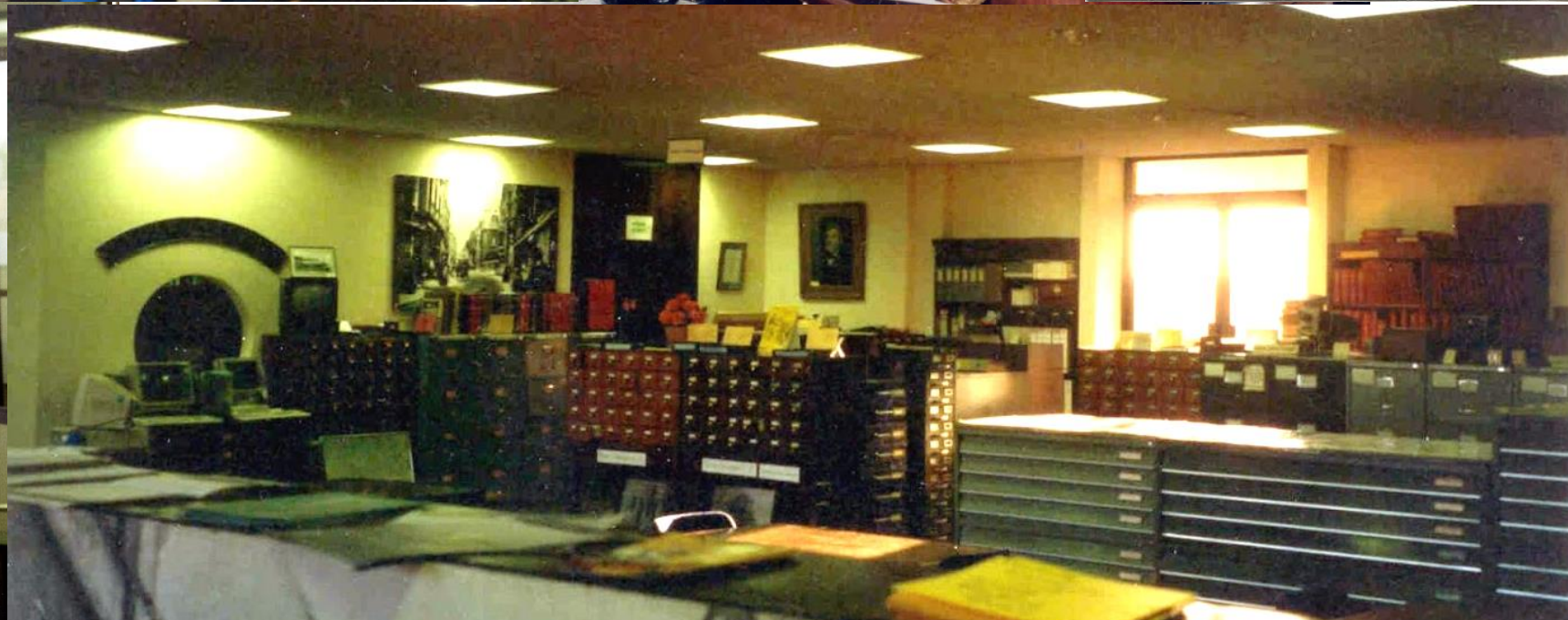
The Albatross Inheritance: Local Studies Libraries

Mike Petty
Library Management
Volume 6 Number 1 1985



By the mid 1990s the Collection was being used by some 1,000 researchers each month. They were assisted by a small team of Librarians who included my deputy, Chris Jakes

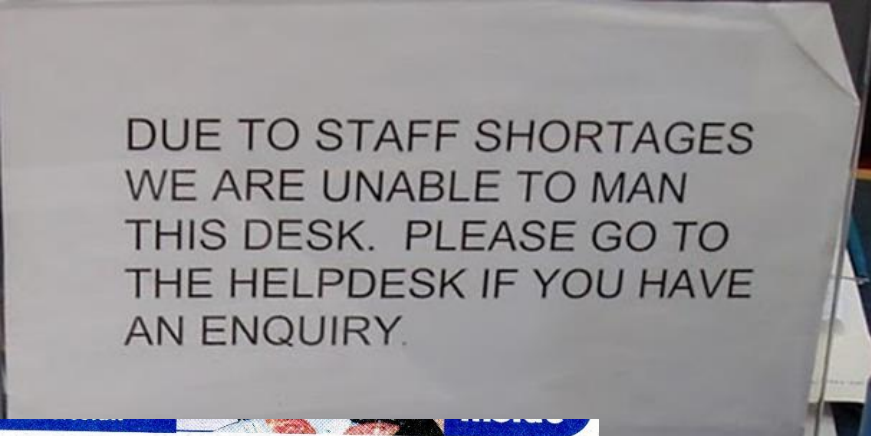




Chris Jakes took over the Collection when I was 'retired', 25 years ago. I received various awards including an MBE and Honorary Cambridge MA but the most important thing was an acknowledgement that I would continue to promote the resources of the Cambridgeshire Collection.



The Collection was relocated three times during a period of mismanagement that saw the entire Central Library closed for many months. Protests have ensured that it remains a part of the Cambridge Central Library. But the staff has been cut and most of its resources are once more hidden away.



Central library protest forces council rethink

JON VALE

A DECISION to replace part of Cambridge Central Library's third floor with an enterprise centre has been put on hold. Protesters were successful in getting the decision reviewed after an appeal to Cambridgeshire County Council on Tuesday. The proposals would have leased some 60 per cent of the third floor to Kora – part of the Regus group – for an enterprise centre to help the out-



However, a motion from committee chairman Cllr Roger Hickford means that the decision was delayed until the same committee's meeting in June. A consultation over the future of the library service is likely to be extended past its current end of April closing date. A petition signed by almost 3,500 people was presented to the general purposes committee on Tuesday opposing the plans, although the wording of the petition was criticised as it included words such



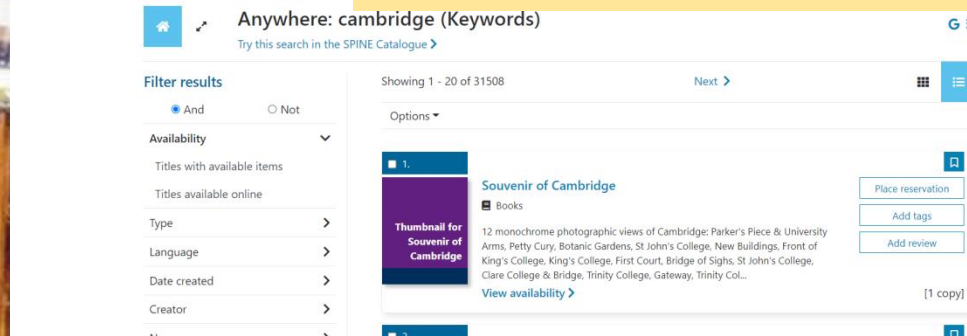


The Cambridgeshire Collection

*An annotated catalogue
of the books and articles,
pamphlets and periodicals
acquired 1855 - 1983*



There is now no space even for some of the card catalogues which record details of the hidden material. The catalogue of books has been discarded to be replaced with an online version which is incomplete and difficult to use.

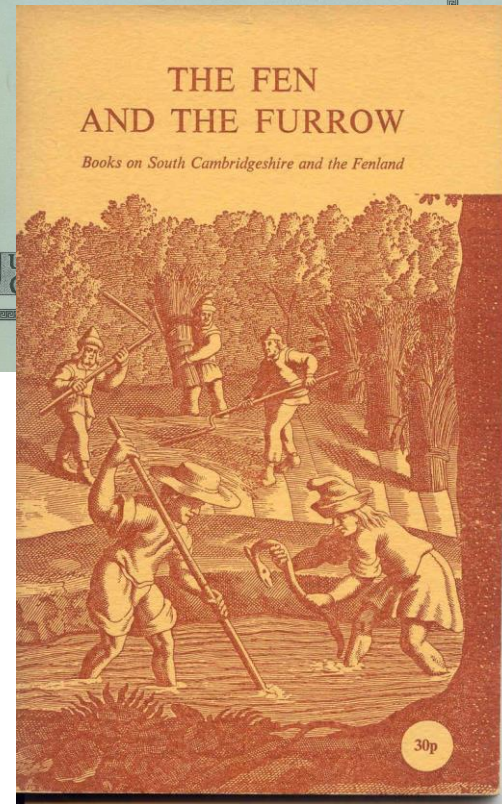
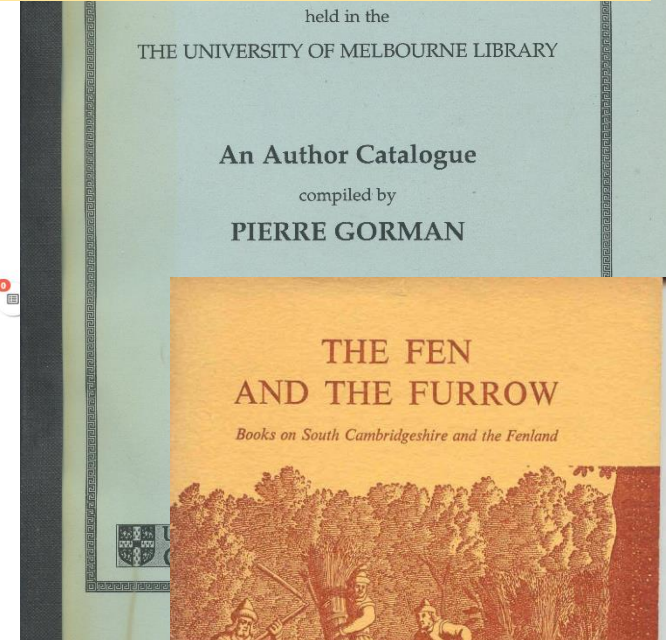


A Cambridgeshire Bibliography

Volume 1

An annotated catalogue of the books and articles, pamphlets and periodicals about Cambridge, Cambridgeshire and the Fens accessioned by the Cambridgeshire Collection 1855-2016.

Mike Petty



Early English Books Online

English Parliamentary Papers

Eighteen-century Books Online etc etc

There are other Libraries: Cambridge University Library has been pioneering projects to digitise books, journal articles and reports



With a 'Raven' password I was able to discover hundreds of items not held in the Collection



11606
Gt. Brit. Poor law commissioners.
REPORTS
OF
SPECIAL ASSISTANT
POOR LAW COMMISSIONERS
ON THE EMPLOYMENT
OF
WOMEN AND CHILDREN
IN AGRICULTURE.



These I have downloaded to my home computer and shared via Memory Sticks – you can carry hundreds of books in your pocket. I have also searched *Google Books* and *Internet Archive* both of which have digitised hundreds of Cambridgeshire items

- | | | |
|-----------------------------------|--------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 1809 Frost From rioting | 1837 Holywell Parish registers | 1867 Delanoy Spooky stories |
| 1810 Jones Guided bus | 1838 Swavesey born & bred | 1868 Madingley |
| 1811 Whitely Pepys | 1839 Frere Cot | |
| 1812 O'Connor Stretham coprolites | 1840 03 28 Ro | |
| 1813 Guillebaud From bats | 1840 Swavesey | |
| 1813 Newspplan titles | 1841 Swavesey | |
| 1815 Impington Hall sale | 1842 Thomas C | |
| 1816 Terence Gray | 1843 Six move | |
| 1817 Woolf A room | 1844 Over Chronicle | 1875 Bennett Invasion |
| 1818 Keynes Women's part | 1845 Benwick Mill | 1876 Freeman album |
| 1819 Clark Route | 1846 Swavesey old & new | 1877 Kelly Norfolk 1922 |



Selden Society
THE COURT BARON

BEING PRECEDENTS FOR USE IN SEIGNIORIAL
AND OTHER LOCAL COURTS

TOGETHER WITH
Select Pleas from the Bishop of Ely's Court of Littleport

EDITED
FOR THE SELDEN SOCIETY
BY
FREDERIC WILLIAM MAITLAND
AND
WILLIAM PALEY BAILDON

AT A SESSION OF SEWARS HOLDEN AT THE CITTIE OF ELY,
the xxij. and xxij. dayes of September, Ann. Dom. 1619. before the Reverend Father in God NICHOLAS, Lord Bishop
of Ely, Sr. MILES SANDYS, Knight and Barronet, Sr. EDWARD RADCLIFFE, Sr. JOHN CVTS, Sr. SYMEON
STEWART, Sr. RICHARD COXE, Sr. WILLIAM WENDIE, Knights: JOHN GOSTLIN Doctor
of Physicke, Vicechancellor of the Vniuersitie of Cambridge, JOHN CROPLEY, and HENRIE SMITH, Doctors of
Diuinitie, JOHN POPE Doctor of Lawe, Henrie Bing Elquier, Mr. Jerome Beale, Bachelor in Diuinitie, Daniel Wigmore
Archdeacon of Ely, Robert Steward, Isaac Barrowe, Daniell Goodricke, Peter Franckland, Esquiers; Robert Clench, John Peppie,
John Orwell, Simon Wastou, and Henry Upcher, Gentlemen, Commissioners of Sewars amongst others assigned: It is ordered
as followeth: viz.

WHEREAS The Kings most excellent Maieftie, by his gracious Letters, dated at Windfore the iij. day of this instant moneth of September,
directed vnto the Commissioners of Sewars in the Countie of Cambridge, Isle of Ely, Suffolke, Norfolk, Lincoln, Northampton, Huntingdon, &c.
therein signifying, that Sr. WILLIAM AYLOFFE, Knight and Barronet, Sr. ANTHONIE THOMAS Knight, with other their
friends, at their owne charge haue vnderaken the great and worthy worke, to draine the grounds surrounded with fiesh or salt waters, in the
seuerall Countiees of Cambridge, the Isle of Ely, Norfolk, Suffolke, Lincoln, Northampton, Huntingdon, &c. whereby his Maiefties conceiuet, that a great and in-
estimable profit will arise to the Kingdome, and that the said worke will disburthen the said Countiees, and the Inhabitantes thereof, from the taxes and char-
ges now continually imposed vpon them, and will reconcile, and vterly take away all differences, and discontents heretofore arising about the leuying of
such taxes: Also signifying, that the said Vandertakers haue already concluded in point with his Maieftie, concerning the recompence for the draining his
Maiefties lands, and the lands of the Prince his Highnes; And hath by his Maiefties said Letters, recommended the said Vandertakers, and their designes to the
especiall care of all the Lords, and other Commissioners of Sewars, for aill and euery the said Countiees, requiring them to be aiding and assisting to them in the
Contracts to be made with the Subiects according to Lawe; And that all persons should be respected, and conformable to that his Maiefties Royall pleasure.

AND therewithall, the right Honourable Lords, and others of his Maiefties most Honourable Pruuie Counsell, for further direction and instruction,
haue also directed their Honourable Letters, bearing date at Windfore afore said, the v. day of the said moneth of September, Wherein their Lordships for the
better clearing of the said business, haue mentioned one cheife purpose of the said Vandertakers, That they intend to beginne their workes at the Sea, and
to open the out-falls of Neame and Welland, and make them nauigable to the Townes of Spalding and Wisbech, which (their Lordships conceiued) will take a-
way all feare of turning the waters vpon any the neighbour-Countries, and drawe the same into their true and naturall channells, without any further trou-
ble or inconuenience.

For the reader, and more speedie execution whereof, their Lordships by their said Letters did likewise require the said Commissioners of Sewars, to ob-
serue well his Maiefties said gracious, and Princely direction.

OBSERVATIONS
ON
AN ADDRESS
TO THE
PUBLIC,
DATED APRIL, 20, 1775,
SUPERSCRIBED
BEDFORD LEVEL,
AND SIGN'D
CHARLES NALSON COLE, Register;
Repeatedly inserted in the Cambridge Paper;



For over 20 years I read through local newspapers to compile a daily *Looking Back* column in the Cambridge News recording some of the interesting stories published 25, 50, 75 and 100 years before

22 | May 12, 2014 | cambridge-news.co.uk | Cambridge News

LOOKING BACK

by MIKE PETTY

Tourists spending £165m in city

FROM THE NEWS 1984
Tourists contributed £165 million to Cambridge's economy last year but just £157,000 was spent on welcoming them.

The council cash went on running the tourism office in Wheeler Street, which has 12 full-time staff and another dozen workers in the summer.

The colleges are a major attraction but university life would be seriously disrupted if they were allowed to close.

Uncontrolled. Most colleges close during exams but are anxious not to close their gates unnecessarily.

Remembering Wembley days

FROM THE NEWS 1984
Memories will flood back to Giffon man, Vic Watson, when his old team West Ham play in a Wembley Cup Final.

The last time they were there was in 1923 and Vic, then 25, was leading the attack as centre-forward.

They lost 2-0 to Bolton in a game that became known as the 'White Horse Final'.

Vic was with the club for 16 years and won seven England caps. After retirement he became club coach at Cambridge Town for nearly 20 years until they turned professional.

'Press must be true and faithful'

FROM THE NEWS 1939
If war came some kind of press censorship would be inevitable.

Local landmarks were far from run of the mill

Memories

By MIKE PETTY

LAST weekend, windmill enthusiasts celebrated the remaining examples of the structures which have been so important a feature of the landscape for centuries.

Inevitably many have now gone: "Windmills are disappearing so fast that in many parts of the country they are a forgotten race. Some day antiquarians will be examining and digging in mounds, having quite forgotten that they were the mounds of old windmills made to raise them a little above the surrounding land," Henry Hughes told members of the Cambridge Antiquarian Society in November 1928.

Together with JH Bullock and Rex Wallis he set about making a record of the windmills existing throughout Cambridgeshire and the Isle of Ely. It was not an encouraging task for such enthusiasts. They found the oldest mill at Bourne had been out of commission for six years, its sails having been smashed in a gale in 1925, finishing its working life. But fears it would be lost were dispelled when it was acquired by the Cambridge Preservation Society who have continued to care for it.

In Cambridge the windmill that had given Mill Road its name had long gone and the mill at Long Road Trumpington had also disappeared. Miss Moore, the daughter of the last miller, told them it had been built in 1812 and stopped working in the spring of 1887. Photographer R.L. Lord snapped it in its prime. But French's Mill off Victoria Road was still standing faithfully.

It was replaced in 1935 by a post mill from Elingdon which Ambrose Harding the Squire of Audley had moved plank by plank to its present site. Such restoration was expensive and needed specialist skills such as that of the Soham firm of Harri Millwrights whose work was photographed by the antiquarians.

In 1932 Philippa Bunell bought a cottage, granary and 20 acres of land together with the windmill at West Wymington for £100. High and isolated, she found it a little paradise – and promptly left to study in Paris! She returned in 1934 when she wrote plays and learned about planting and pruning. All the while the windmill was watching her with its broken sails, cap all out, windows rotten and rain coming in. It was an

see the mill, sitting contentedly on rustic tables in the orchard. After two seasons however she closed the business as the mill was restored. It was not the end of the story; she wrote a play, *The Wind and the Mill*, which was performed by the Festival Theatre Company in the fields around the windmill in June 1935.

As well as corn mills, drainage mills were once a very familiar sight in the fens, and the Cambridge Antiquarians took a picture of a group of small mills near Bleham in 1914. There was a large mill at Soham mere, belonging to the Cambridgeshire County Council with the old type of tail beam and old types of tail. "Long may they be preserved by the bodies that own them," Hughes exhorted.

Sails it was not to be. By 1947 the

SAILING AWAY: Above left, Maulding windmill painted by William Mathison c1907. Top: French's Mill, Victoria Road with sails, 1912. Above: Mill at Long Road Trumpington, photographed by R.H. Lord c1880.

later another drainage mill, much younger, much less impressive and in a much worse state, was re-built and erected just next door at Micken Fen, where it is lauded as the last of the fenland wind drainage mills.

The photographs taken by the

The Cambridgeshire Scrapbook 1897-1990 lists the stories in one chronological sequence and includes many items relating to Cambridge that are not featured in the Chronicle.

A Cambridgeshire Scrapbook 1897-1990

Facts, Features and (occasional) Fallacies
reported in Cambridge Newspapers

Summaries of Stories and Copies of Articles



compiled by Mike Petty.
Revised Jan 2021.

<https://archive.org/details/a-cambridgeshire-scrapbook-1897-1990-by-mike-petty.-july-2020>

1916 07 12

Big Push Casualties. There was a long list of casualties or local men as result of the Big Push, which is now progressing so satisfactorily. Large numbers of wounded have arrived at the First Eastern Hospital—as many as 460 reached Cambridge in two days—and a number of medical officers have left the hospital for service at a daughter hospital in Egypt 16 07 12 CIP

1916 07 19

100th ambulance train arrives – 16 07 19a

Cambridgeshire men who have fought and fell: photos of: Swift, Ingle, Hattersley, Pryor, Bendall, Willis, Marsh, Dockerill, Rose, Johnson, Newman, Pearman, Richmond, Huyler, Renshaw, Goody, Stearn, Ellis, Chapman, Robinson, Barber, White, Benstead, Richmond, Ellis, Cousins, Lack, Smart, Monk, Foreman, King, Gifford – 16 07 19c [note: there are a series of photographs of casualties; I have listed names on the Cambridge Chronicle [1916 indexes](#)]

Tribunal includes Gas Company; H.J. Gray men on war work 16 07 19b

Another Heavy List Of Casualties. Many additional casualties - the price which must be paid for all great victories - among Cambs. men at the Front, has come to hand during the past week. Mingled, however, with the expression of deep sympathy with the relatives of those who have fallen and the earnest hope for the recovery of the wounded, is a feeling of great pride in our gallant county lads and their valiant conduct in the Great Push. Fearlessly "and in a storm of shell, rifle bullets and machine gun bullets" to use the words of one of them - the lads of Cambridgeshire leaped out of their trenches when the word was given in the early hours of the morning of July 1. Many fell, but "most of the boys got there" and gloriously did they acquit themselves. Town and county have cause to be proud of the part played by their sons on this memorable July morning. And before then, too, and since. In addition to the local casualties published last week, further casualties include five killed in action (including Capt. the Hon. Roland E. Phillips, Royal Fusiliers, only surviving son of Lord St. Davids), six died of wounds, one missing believed killed, four missing, including Capt. G. W. Deighton, son of Dr. Deighton, of Hills Road, Cambridge and over 40 wounded. CIP

<https://archive.org/details/a-cambridgeshire-scrapbook-1897-1990-by-mike-petty.-july-2020>

These stories have been brought together in one 4,000-page chronological ***Cambridgeshire Scrapbook 1897-1990***. It records thousands of otherwise forgotten facts and can be searched by name and place

A Cambridgeshire Scrapbook 1897-1990

Facts, Features and (occasional) Fallacies
reported in Cambridge Newspapers

Summaries of Stories and Copies of Articles



compiled by Mike Petty.
Revised Jan 2021.

<https://archive.org/details/a-cambridgeshire-scrapbook-1897-1990-by-mike-petty.-july-2020>

Littleport Scrapbook 1897-1990

Extracts from 'A Cambridgeshire Scrapbook', compiled by Mike Petty
16 Nov 2016

Introduction

Each evening from March 1997 to March 2015 I compiled a 'Looking Back' column in the Cambridge News in which I featured snippets from issues of 100, 75, 50 and 25 years ago. I sought out unusual items relating to villages and areas of Cambridge not usually reported. These stories are from issues of the Cambridge Daily/Evening/Weekly News of 1897-1990 I can supply actual copies of many of these articles – please contact me.

The full set of articles, numbering over 3,000 pages is available at bit.ly/CambsCollection

The newspapers are held in the Cambridgeshire Collection together with other Cambridge titles back to 1762. They have a variety of indexes including a record of stories for every village in Cambridgeshire [between 1770-1900](#) and newspaper cuttings files on 750 topics from 1958 to date. I initiated much of the indexing and have many indexes of my own. Please feel free to contact me for advice and assistance.

For more details of newspapers and other sources for Cambridgeshire history see my website www.mikepetty.org.uk

This index was produced as a part of my personal research resource editing. If you can make any of it work for you I am delighted. But always check everything!

Please make what use of it you may. Please remember who it can

<https://archive.org/details/a-cambridgeshire-scrapbook-1897-1990-by-mike-petty.-july-2020>

I have produced
'Mini-Scrapbooks'
for scores of
communities and
numerous topics
including railways,
aircraft, war – and
Littleport

<https://archive.org/details/MikesOnlineResources>

1983 11 17

Sir - Life in Burnt Fen is not very rich these days. There is no work in the area. The nearest shop is 4½ miles away at Prickwillow and the school is due to close with the children bussed to Littleport. To get to the doctor's surgery people have to take the train from Shippea Hill station to Ely. There is no village hall, no church, chapel, nor even a post office. It hasn't a pub any more and there are no clubs. Is it any wonder that half the people living in the council houses want to change homes – Harry Bye. 83 11 17 p16

1984 01 05

A new village industry is booming in Cambridgeshire – compiling village chronicles. It is the result of a major project at the Cambridgeshire Collection which has indexed the village news appearing in the Cambridge Chronicle newspaper between 1770 and 1899. Now these stories are being transcribed and published in a series of village 'Chronicles'. The first was compiled for Stretham and others have followed for Littleport, Barrington and Swavesey with more in the pipeline. 84 01 05 p14

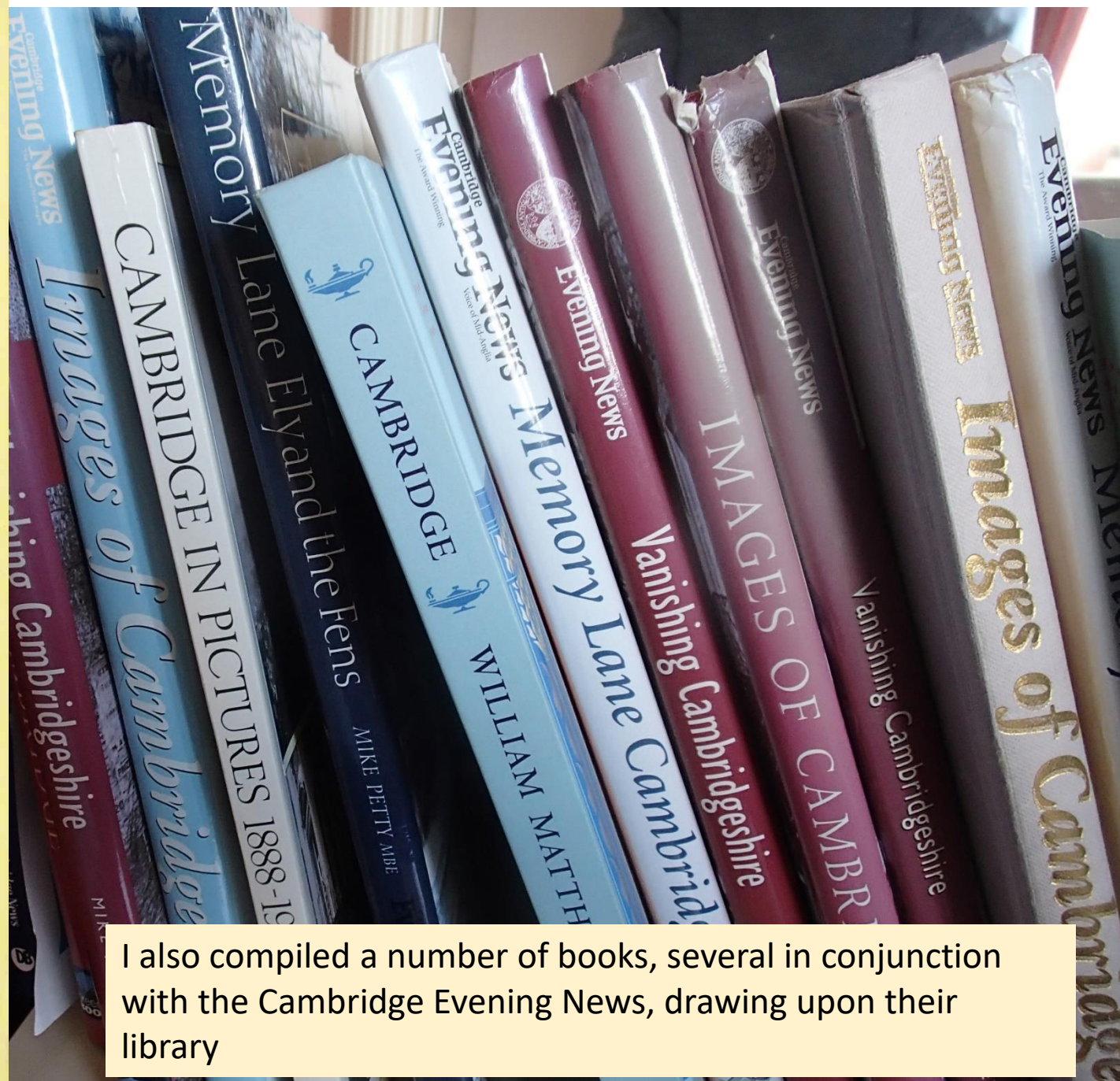
1984 04 09

In April 1984 Littleport Women's Institute handed over a hand-carved pictorial sign to the village, exactly two years after starting fund-raising. The £500 sign was formally presented to the chairman of the parish council, Mr Bert Wright, by the W.I. President, Mrs Joan Davies. The sign, made by Mr Paul Hillard of King's Lynn, depicts village scenes on one side and the Littleport martyrs on the other. Mrs Davies said she was delighted with the way WI members had rallied round to raise the money for the sign. The fund-raising exceeded the target by about £100 after organising mini auctions, coffee evenings and a continental café at the village show. After the presentation about 90 people attended a supper in the village hall

CAMBRIDGE 1888-1988 IN PICTURES



MICHAEL J PETTY



I also compiled a number of books, several in conjunction with the Cambridge Evening News, drawing upon their library



From the mid 1960's the Cambridge News had maintained their own library to record every story that had been published in their newspaper

That library was closed down. But I had permission to use

Search for: Cambridgeshire

Search mode

Exact-Phrase Search

Date

from: 01/01/1960

to: 31/12/1970

Series

☐ Search by series

Add Category

- ☐ Accidents / Disasters
- ☐ Award Ceremonies and Red Carpet Events
- ☐ Animals

Settings

Relevance

Date

Date

Grid view

Page: 1 2 3 4 5

Go to page 1 Go

[Select all results](#)
[Unselect all results](#)
[Select page](#)
[Unselect page](#)

Results for: CAMBRIDGESHIRE (167) Active filters: All By Decade: Date: 01.01.1960 - 31.12.1970



01504129



01504127



mirrorpix

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[Con](#)

Life in pictures.

Mirrorpix represents Britain's largest and most comprehensive press photographic collection, containing millions of images from the archives of our national and regional newspapers and celebrity magazines. The collection includes works from the pioneering Daily Mirror newspaper, the Daily Express and hundreds more leading regional newspapers. Our archive is an unbeatable resource for in-depth coverage of more than a century of news, entertainment, sport, royalty and social history.

Learn more

It contained many thousands of prints and negatives taken by Cambridge News photographers. These have been transferred to the Mirrorpix archive in Watford. They have plans to scan and share them and can supply quality prints – provided they know the date or negative details

Cambridgeshire



I worked through hundreds of folders of photographs and thousands of negatives. I took digital copies of many of these then used an image processing program to convert them to positives which I added to my files.





259.59



259.60



259.61



259.62



259.63



259.65



259.66 (2)



259.66



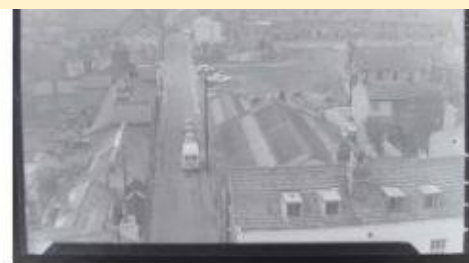
259.67

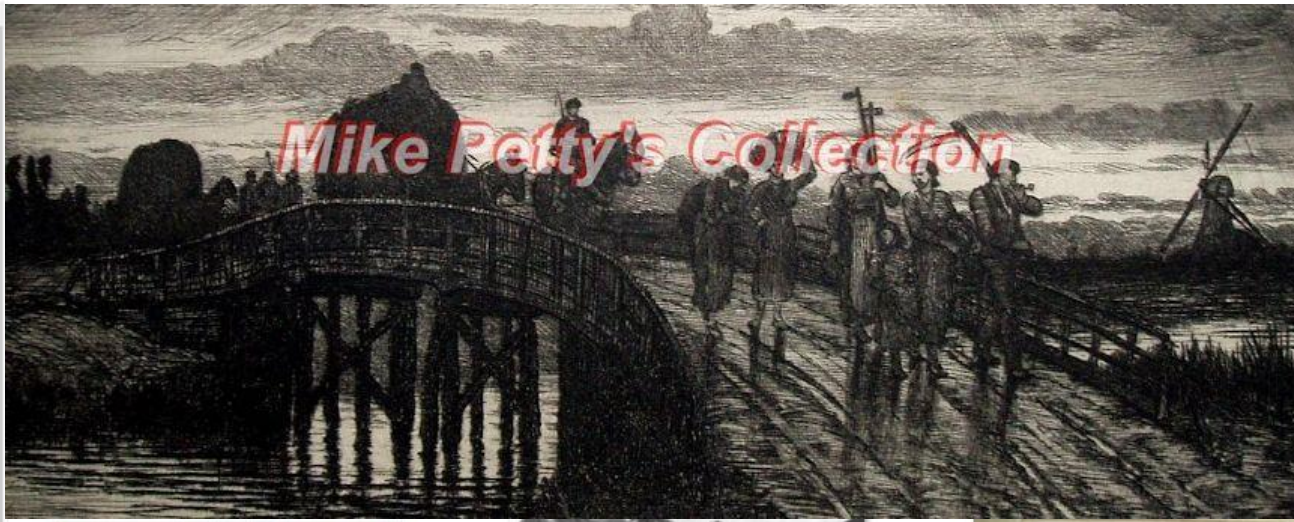


259.68



Each is catalogued and includes the negative reference





129.71

They are some of over 25,000 images I have catalogued and copied - including Littleport. They have been shared in Albums on **Google Photos** –

<https://archive.org/details/CambridgeshireIllustrationsPart1Index>

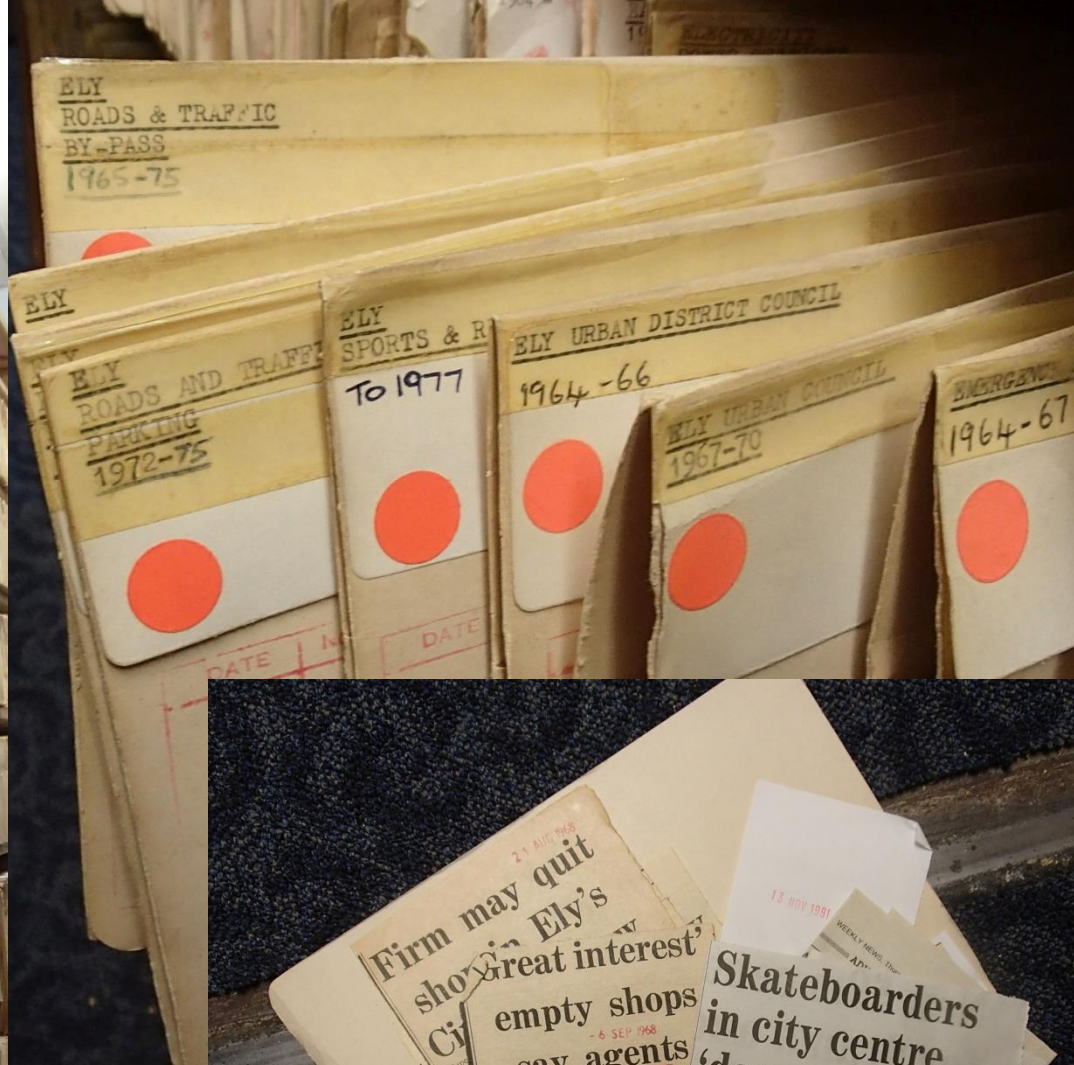
<https://archive.org/details/cambridgehire-illustrations-1574-to-2000-in-mike-pettys-collection-nov-2020>

<https://photos.app.goo.gl/JpSUwUy5cFdQJx1q9>

<https://photos.app.goo.gl/CVkh8YnnZnJFHvpJ6>

The Cambridge News Librarians maintained thousands of cuttings files from the 1960s to the end of the century.





They covered all aspects of Cambridge and its county. Many duplicated the files maintained by the Cambridgeshire Collection. These were not needed and were scheduled to be dumped. Instead they were given to me. I have passed them to the Cambridge Independent who have promised to make them accessible to researchers



Floods General 1968 Oct-Dec (56)



Floods General 1968 Oct-Dec (57)



Floods General 1968 Oct-Dec (58)



Floods General 1968 Oct-Dec (59)



Floods General 1968 Oct-Dec (60)



Floods General 1968 Oct-Dec (61)



Floods General 1968 Oct-Dec (62)



Floods General 1968 Oct-Dec (63)



Floods General 1968 Oct-Dec (64)



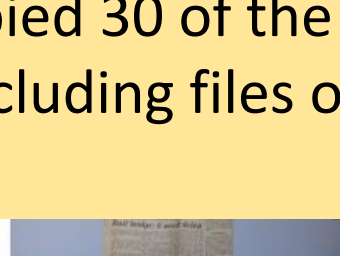
Floods General 1968 Oct-Dec (65)



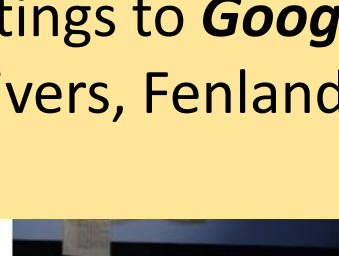
Floods General 1968 Oct-Dec (66)



Floods General 1968 Oct-Dec (67)



Floods General 1968 Oct-Dec (68)



Floods General 1968 Oct-Dec (69)



Floods General 1968 Oct-Dec (70)

I have copied 30 of the cuttings to **Google Photos** including files on Rivers, Fenland, Floods



... and Littleport. They include many not included in the Littleport Scrapbook

Littleport Roads & Traffic

Littleport St George

Littleport 65-68 (1)

Big village hall plans

In May, 1977 Littleport Parish Council held a public meeting to discuss the possibility of obtaining a village hall. At this meeting an independent Village Hall Committee was formed. Several local organisations were represented and other interested people volunteered to join the committee.

They spent six months investigating the facts about village halls. Visits to the committees and halls at Little Downham and Fordham were very helpful. In November 1977 the committee arranged another public meeting to decide whether to build a new hall or to purchase the then privately owned Constitutional Hall in Victoria Street which was in danger of being closed. An architect presented plans to show both a new hall and the possibilities for modernising and extending the old Cambridgeshire Community hall.

A representative of the Council explained how grants could be obtained for this sort of project and the meeting voted to go ahead with the plan to purchase the Constitutional Hall.

Negotiations were started with the owners of the property, grants were applied for from local and central government and fund-raising began. Events have included dances, auctions, barbecues, sponsored walking and knitting, hot pancake selling and

ADVERTISEMENT FEATURE

bushes from outside the hall. After two years a total of £6,093 has been obtained in grants. The Littleport Day Centre is donating £3,000 towards the purchase price and with the money raised by the committee the purchase will be completed this week.

The committee has already applied for more grants and fund raising continues for the next stage, which is to continue refurbishing, improve the main entrance and provide an extension and equipment for a day centre.

A particularly friendly society

Have you...

Don't be a SCROOGE



Building supervisor Percy Coulson (right) and Roy Bamber, two of the voluntary workers restoring the Constitutional Hall.

Book traces history of village



Mr Rudderham showing his book to some of the people who visited the exhibition. 25668117

The history of Littleport was traced back to 1770 in an exhibition at the primary school at the weekend.

The exhibition covered the history of Littleport from 1770 to 1899 using material from the Cambridgeshire libraries, the county archaeological office and the county records office as well as items lent by people in the village. The exhibition, which was open on Friday night and all day on Saturday, was organised by the county's local studies librarian, Mr Michael Petty.

It was put on at the weekend to coincide with the publication on Friday night of a book on the history of Littleport over the same period. The book was compiled by a Littleport resident, Mr Roger Rudderham, from reports sent in to "The Cambridge Chronicle and University Journal" by village correspondents.

Mr Petty said the correspondents had chronicled the doings and happenings of Littleport and also recorded local reaction to such national events as the last wedding,

Vicar declares war on bats in the rafters

Littleport 65-68 (5)

Anti-hooligan pavilion may increase Littleport bill

Littleport 65-68 (9)

Graveyard scheme under microscope

PLAN FOR LITTLEPORT

FEUD OVER LITTLEPORT CENSUS

1
FOOTWEAR
FLAGS
Huntingdon Town Hall - Union Jack to be removed as tatty 15.5.75
1bX Pic
" " " " " put up on Prince Philip's birthday.
11-6-75 15FX
" " " " " Union Jack stolen. 14-2-76 1F LOC
SMITH CAMPS DC

FIRES - GRASS.

39

Stubble burning: Cdge area campaign growing - Mayor urges letters to MP
26-8-83. 11a.
2 " health experts want ban. 26-8-83. 11a.
" " C Wrighton, NFU, says no alternative. 26-8-83. 11a.
" " RV Harrowell letter. 26-8-83. 11d.
" " Cambs fires costing ratepayers thousands: farmers face
prosecution. 26-8-83. 1a.
" " Gawain Hammond of Harlton saves home after hedge fire
from field. 26-8-83. 10. pic
" " causes power cuts 27-8-83. 6.c. & 30-8-83. 9.a.

FIRES - CAMBRIDGE

40

STROODS HALL

Hall and gardens open to the public on Sunday 1-10-83. 11a.
Open to the public on Sunday 1-7-83. 11a.

The Cambridge News Librarians also built-up detailed card indexes recording everything published in their paper. These were housed in filing cabinets

1
FOOTWEAR
FLAGS
Huntingdon Town Hall - Union Jack to be removed as tatty 15.5.75
1bX Pic
" " " " " put up on Prince Philip's birthday.
11-6-75 15fX
" " " " " Union Jack stolen. 14-2-76 1f LOC
SMITH CAMPS DC

FIRES - GRASS. 39
Stubble burning: Cdge area campaign growing - Mayor urges letters to MP
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" " Gawain Hammond of Harlton saves home after hedge fire
from field. 26-8-83. 1c. pic
" " causes power cuts 27-8-83. 6.c. & 30-8-83. 9.a.

FIRES - CAMBRIDGE 40
FIRES - GENERAL 99



One morning I
opened the cabinets
to find that all the
cards had
disappeared

FLAGS

Huntingdon Town Hall - Union Jack to be removed as tatty 15.5.75
1bx Pic
put up on Prince Philip's birthday.
11-6-75 15fx
Union Jack stolen. 14-2-76 1f LOC

FIRES - GRASS.

39

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from field. 26-8-83. 1c. pic
" " causes power cuts 27-8-83. 6.c. & 30-8-83. 9.a.

40



Fortunately I had copied a few of the indexes including Stretham and the villages around Ely – including Littleport

LITTLEPORT.

Appln for shop on Woodfen estate rejected 4-3-65. p.10.c.4. N.
Musical evening raises £10 for Church roof. 26-4-65. p.6.c.6.N.
Church to hold Flower Festival May 21 - 24. 12-5-65. p.16.c.2.
" " Nearly 300 attend 22-5-65. p.9.c.2.
Littleport Methodist Garden Fete 24-5-65. p.6.c.4. N.
'Life in a village' series 28-5-65. p.24 Pics. 835/6/8/9C & 841/2/3/4/
6C & 840C.
If Lines & E. Anglia area accepted L will get another 571 acres. 3-6-65.
p.13.c.5.
J.H. Martin re-elected chairman of Parish Cl. 3-6-65. p.13.c.5.
Plantation House gardens open to the public. 16-6-65. p.14.c.3. pic. 1/43C
Disused churchyard to become an open space. 8-7-65. p.12.c.3.N.
Show 19-7-65. p.6.c.3. N. Pic
Amalgamated Friendly Socys Church Parade 26-7-65. p.8.c.1.
All records more than 50 yrs old with exception of tithe maps & refere
nce works to go to county archivist. 21-10-65. p.7.c.3.N.
VL offer to provide seat outside Ponts Hill bungalows to commemorate jubi
lee accepted by Par Cl. 21-10-65. p.7.c.3.N.
DVG Clarke welcomed to first Par Cl meeting. 21-10-65. p.7.c.3.N.

PTO

LITTLEPORT - HOUSING

7.9.90. 10

5

Wellington St: G Spinks appln, flats for elderly. 12-2-85. 8c
Beech Court, sheltered housing scheme official opening on Friday.
16-10-85. 22f.
ELY: L Covill appln for house. 17-10-85. 11g.
Beech Court officially opened. 21-10-85. 9e. 10c
City Rd: T Amory appln for houses & garages. 25-11-85. 5g.
" " " Developments appln for 2 houses. 5-4-86. 7a
Grange Lane-Millfield plan by Buckingham & Sparrow. 27-5-86. 15e
Lynn Rd housing plan to appeal. 3-10-86. 4c
Station Rd houses plan. 16-2-87. 8g
MILLFIELD: P North bungalow appeal. 21-2-87. 8g
LYNN RD house appeal rejected. 25-3-87. 12g.
Grange Lane - plan for 10 homes. 28-3-87. 7a. 10c
SANDHILL: house plan to appeal. 9-4-87. 4c. 10c
Victoria St: 15 house estate planned. 23-4-87. 18g
Globe Lane-Wellington St houses plan by Evangelical Church. 27-4-8
11f
Hempfield Place land news development plan. 13-6-87. 7d

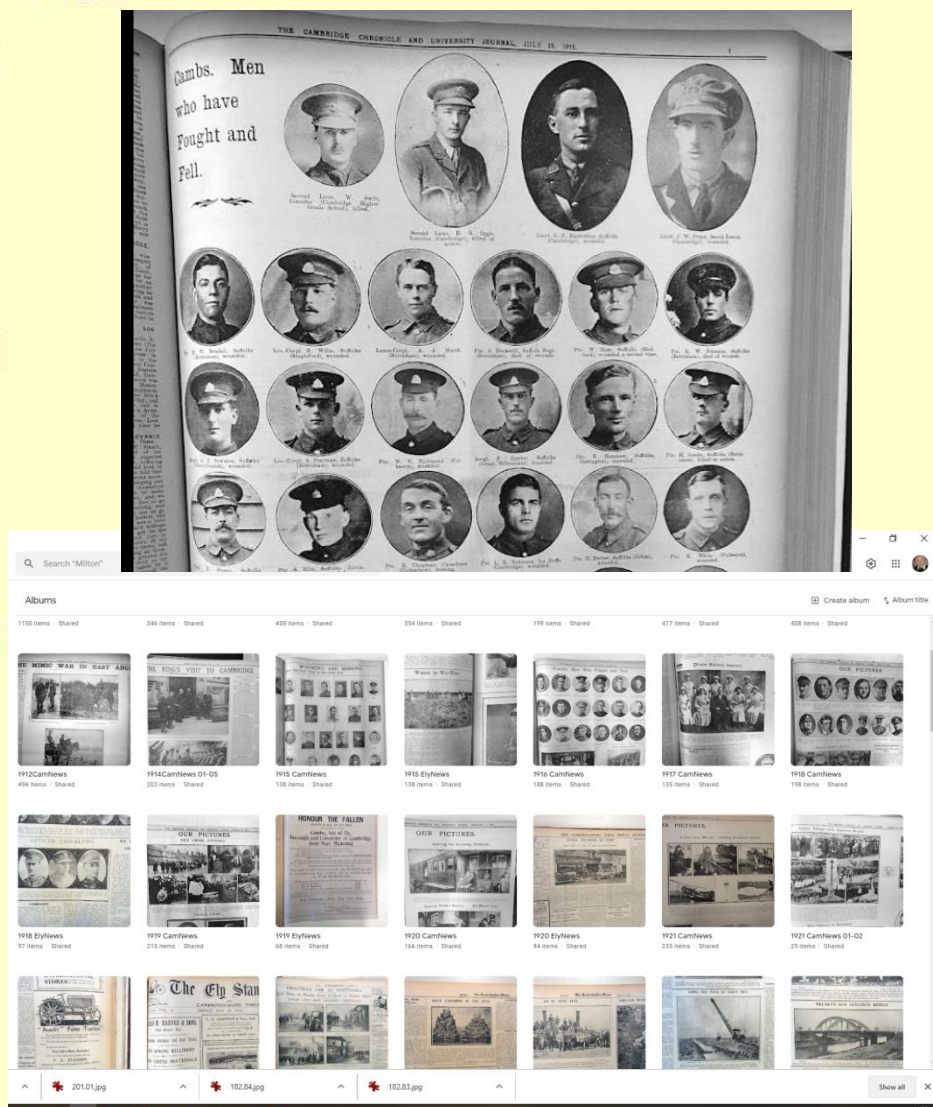
11f

10-8-80

Many entries are followed by a date code, YY-MM-DD.
There are copies of hundreds of the actual articles in files on Google Photos.

Cambridge Newspapers copied on Google Photos

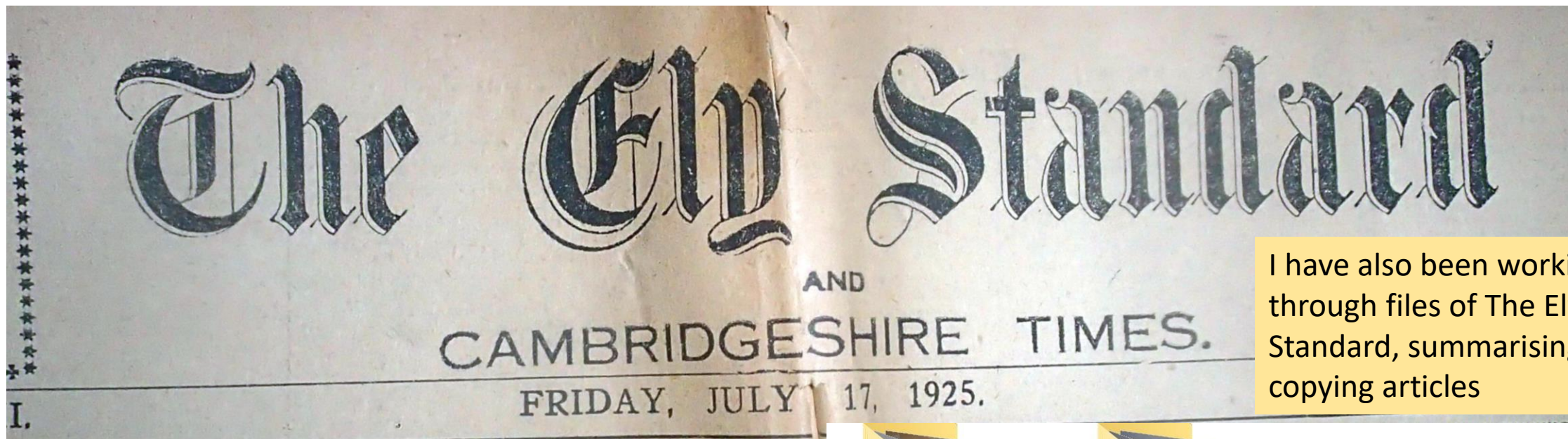
1905-07 <https://photos.app.goo.gl/qQeTRHFZ5bLcPBRq9>
1910-13 <https://photos.app.goo.gl/VG35idug3JLliaoNS7>
1915 <https://photos.app.goo.gl/kU75VKExfcgXvmSM9>
1916 <https://photos.app.goo.gl/zbvEA51wNdUuReJe6>
1917 <https://photos.app.goo.gl/N8hG7b8mtdLEnQqq9>
1918 <https://photos.app.goo.gl/ZJPqce6g6XsXcU7C8>
1919 <https://photos.app.goo.gl/5d5etstfNGhgSCUD9>
1920 <https://photos.app.goo.gl/wYx1hs7pEdKqJDES6>
1930-39 <https://photos.app.goo.gl/HdHm2pPD3WQ4uop57>
1940 <https://photos.app.goo.gl/NWAGudgZQxvVQ8oZA>
1941 <https://photos.app.goo.gl/j3v641j2fDYzA9Mu6>
1942 <https://photos.app.goo.gl/XeytJ1bxZzQhDBGL7>
1943 <https://photos.app.goo.gl/6ABpSqP4V8C5fhQYA>
1944 <https://photos.app.goo.gl/QKiE9AMnS66eckncA>
1945 <https://photos.app.goo.gl/Bkqzr3Eqt6jr4FZm6>
1946 <https://photos.app.goo.gl/ktmNPr5nhnKdkDGw9>
1955-59 <https://photos.app.goo.gl/KT4m35GrCKwRgaCG9>
1960-64 <https://photos.app.goo.gl/QBFPQG84j1F27Jko8>
1965 <https://photos.app.goo.gl/ARd6N1D4nkvs4msz8>
1966 <https://photos.app.goo.gl/eGRuMZJJdwW5foQr7>
1967 <https://photos.app.goo.gl/kNDhXKMPaxpmaf5s9>
1968 <https://photos.app.goo.gl/hFQWuG3eFvjLfq7W9>
1969 <https://photos.app.goo.gl/xWYfKYZ4DJgoRpWTA>
1970 <https://photos.app.goo.gl/jaDdF4b4HJnQ3Qn77>
1971 <https://photos.app.goo.gl/2ssMjDkJCkp5KZP4A>
1972 <https://photos.app.goo.gl/iPAh76skczQ8j1xE9>
1980-89 <https://photos.app.goo.gl/GJt5f8x4S2c3Rk9a8>
1990 <https://photos.app.goo.gl/YfJdJ6u15irw9aeb9>



When compiling the 'Cambridgeshire Scrapbook' I took digital copies of thousands of the original articles as published in Cambridge papers from 1905.

These are online on Google Photos.

You can click through stories appearing throughout the two World Wars as well as the depression of the 1930s, the 'forgotten 50s', 'swinging 60s' and through to 1990.



I have also been working through files of The Ely Standard, summarising and copying articles



Ely Standard 1927



Ely Standard 1928



Ely Standard 1929



Ely Standard 1930



Ely Standard 1931



Ely Standard 1932



Ely Standard 1933



Ely Standard 1934



Ely Standard 1935



Ely Standard 1937



Ely Standard 1938



Ely Standard 1939



Littleport Roads & Traffic



Littleport St George



Littleport 65-68 (1)



Littleport 65-68 (2)



Littleport 65-68 (3)



Littleport 65-68 (4)



Littleport 65-68 (5)



Littleport 65-68 (6)



Littleport 65-68 (7)



Littleport 65-68 (8)



Littleport 65-68 (9)



Littleport 65-68 (10)



Threatened strike of farm labourers; minimum wage of 45/- demanded at Chatteris - 19 01 03 ES

1919 01 10 ES

Surplus army horses sale at Cambridge

A consignment of exceptionally useful light and heavy draught horses were sold at Cambridge Cattle Market. Every horse had been graded as fit for service overseas and but for the signing of the armistice they would now be working with the troops in France. There were 12 of the heavy draught class which met with keen competition from London and local buyers while the 37 light draught horses comprise some very useful strong trotting vanners suitable for land or town work, and a few nice quality riding horses up to weight. There was a good steady trade and satisfactory prices were realised. Amongst the buyers was R. Law of Littleport. Taking them all round the horses constituted one of the best of the consignment sent to Cambridge. They were practically all sound and afforded an excellent opportunity for local people to purchase good horses fit for to do any sort of hard work they might like to put them to. The auctioneers will offer another consignment at the Ely sale yard on January 13th - 19 01 10 ES

German Prison Labour. Sir. I read that Lance Corporal W. Newton, Royal Fusiliers, was released from the army in order to resume civilian employment. On making application for work to his former employer, a well-known farmer of Littleport, he was refused, the agent telling him that he had already had more men than work for them. The majority of them are German prisoners point. If this is true I must say that I am absolutely ashamed of the way in which Tommy has been treated. I have lived in Cambridgeshire nearly all my life before the war and I hope all the Cambridgeshire people are not fixed up with German prisoners. If they are, could not something be done to dispense with them at an early date? I think there is plenty of work could be done by German prisoners elsewhere without being employed on farm work. Yours, Corporal Jefferies, B.E.F. 19 01 10 ES

1919 01 17 ES

Surplus army horses sale at Cambridge. A consignment of exceptional draught horses were sold at Cambridge cattle Market. Every horse had been graded as fit for service overseas and but for the signing of the armistice they would now be working with the troops in France. There were 12 of the heavy draught class which met with keen competition from London and local buyers while the 37 light draught horses comprise some very useful strong trotting vanners suitable for land or town work, and a few nice quality riding horses up to weight. There was a good steady trade and satisfactory prices were realised. Amongst the buyers was R. Law of Littleport. Taking them all round the horses constituted one of the best of the consignment sent to Cambridge. They were practically all sound and afforded an excellent opportunity for local people to purchase good horses fit for to do any sort of hard work they might like to put them to. The auctioneers will offer another consignment at the Ely sale yard on January 13th - 19 01 10 ES

These will be added to the
Cambridgeshire Scrapbook and the 423
references to Littleport updated to a
revised ***Littleport Scrapbook***

Littleport Arber's Mill demolished, Ten Mile Bank Road. Had been run by Benjamin Arber, during the war used as air raid shelter; recently sold and new owner, realising the structure was unsafe, has had to have it demolished – 52 12 19(3)

Death Mrs W. Kennedy, Matron of Littleport Convalescent Home. During War when the Home was taken over by the Air Ministry and her husband on war service, she worked on A.R.P. duties – 52 12 19(3)ES

Ely store belonging to Tucker & Sons builders, 11 Newnham Street, collapsed – photo – 52 12 19(4)ES

Sutton Gault Building Fund to provide permanent Sunday School and social centre reaches £600 – 52 12 19(5)ES

Mike Petty

Cambridge: a Chronicle 1888-1990



Cambridge is comprised of a multitude of elements - Market, Colleges, University, Transport, Shops ... seemingly unchanged

Cambridge 1888-1988: a Chronicle of an English University City is a 4,000-page record of 100 aspects of Cambridge covering topics including planning, transport, women, health etc. etc.

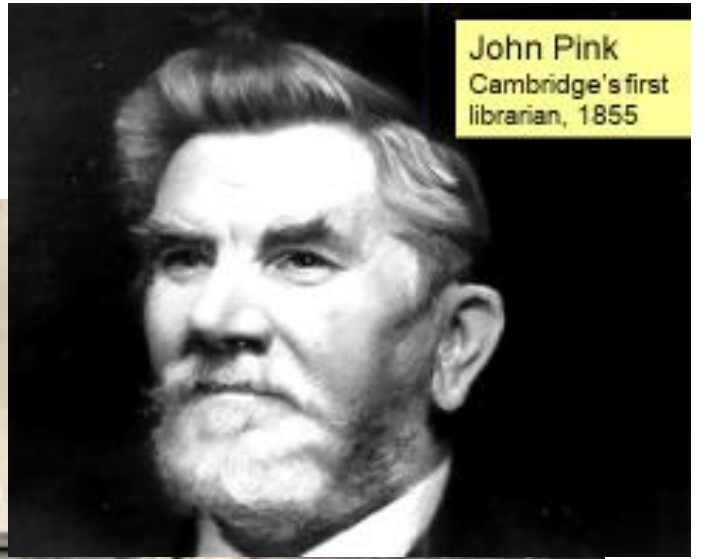
<https://archive.org/details/cambridge-1888-1990-a-chronicle.-2021>

Charles Henry Cooper
compiler of *Annals of
Cambridge*



The *Chronicle* reflects the ethos of the founders of the Cambridgeshire Collection: to record all aspects of local life and to share it freely with all.

John Pink
Cambridge's first
librarian, 1855





For more than 50 years I have tried to share an awareness of that wonderful resource, travelling to virtually every parish and speaking to up to four groups a week,



These days meetings are mainly digital



For thirteen years weekly 'Fenland History on Friday' meetings heard presentations from fenmen to academics with visits to the Collection and other areas of Cambridgeshire



Mike Petty's Collection



BBC Local Radio

Radio Cambridgeshire

medium 1026kHz/292m, 1449kHz/207m

VHF 96MHz Stereo

BROADCASTING HOUSE, HILLS ROAD,

CAMBRIDGE CB2 1LD

PHONE CAMBRIDGE 315970, PHONE-INS 315444

PETERBOROUGH 312832



Librarian Mike Petty reminisces on the growth of photography in Cambridgeshire: Mon 12 noon

SATURDAY

LEEDS UNITED and BRISTOL CITY v PETERBOROUGH UNITED.
5.55 Round up of local

12.3 pm Soundings

A Way of Living
PAUL COBLEY visits the Papworth Village Settlement, founded in 1916 for the rehabilitation of TB patients, and now catering for people with a full range of physical disabilities.

12.25* Programme news

12.30

Westminster at Work

1.0 pm-5.0 am

as Radio 2 (page 34)

WEEKDAYS

News at 7.0 am, 7.30, 8.0, 8.30, 9.0, 12.0, 1.0 pm, 4.0, 4.30, 5.0, 5.30 and 5.58
Presented by FRANCES ALLAN, IAN CAMERON, LES WOODLAND, DAVID CAMPBELL, RITA JOHNSON, EVE TURNER, EVA SIMMONS, PENNY HATCHICK, HELEN FITZWILLIAM, VIRGINIA CROCKER, ANNE BRISTOW and JANE SOLOMONS

5.0 am

as Radio 2

6.45 New Day

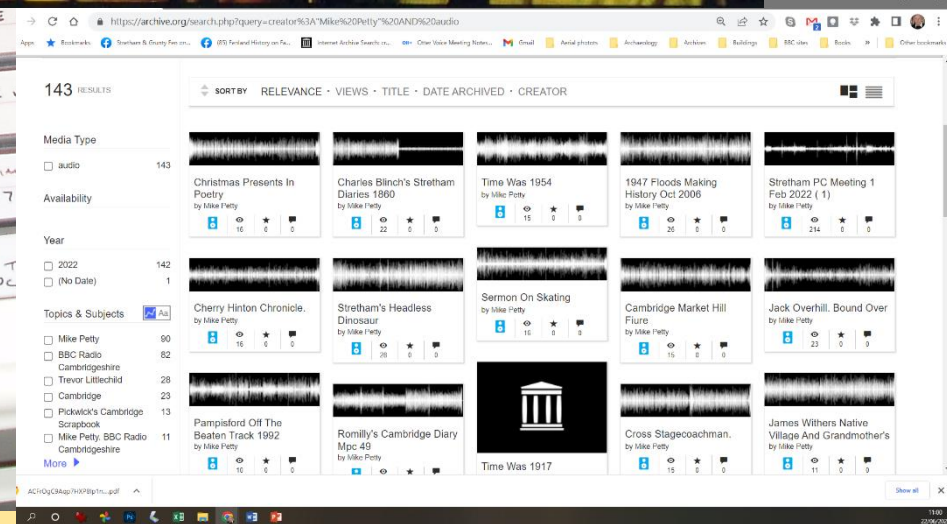
with JULIA BOOTH
Local news, travel, weather and sport: what's on television and in the papers; interviews and music.
Behind the news: a topical discussion, a county visit or a special guest.
Monday and Friday
At 9.15 Arts Round-up

10.0

as Radio 2

12.0 Midday

Call GINA MADGETT on Cambridge 315444 or Peterborough 312832 for the countywide Dial-a-Dedication service, The Careline, Swap Shop or just to have a chat.
Local guests, visiting celebrities, competitions, some midday memories



Recordings: I tried interviewing Cambridge historian Charles Henry Cooper in 1969, but had left it too late. I did record others and made scores of radio broadcasts including Cambridgeshire Echoes, Time Was and a number of 'Off The Beaten Track', one of which featured Wisbech. These can now be heard to on any device <https://archive.org/search.php?query=creator%3A%22Mike%20Petty%22%20AND%20audio>

356 RESULTS

SORT BY RELEVANCE · VIEWS · TITLE · DATE ARCHIVED · CREATOR

Media Type

☐ texts 356

Availability

Year

☐ 2021 5

☐ 2020 10

☐ 2019 12

☐ 2018 175

☐ 2017 84

☐ 2016 54

More ▶

Topics & Subjects

☐ Cambridge 163

☐ Cambridgeshire 118

☐ Ely 9



River Cam Mill Pool To Baits Bite By Mike Petty
by Mike Petty



Pickwick Cambridge Scrapbook
by Mike Petty



Whitney Scrapbook 1897 to 1990
Facts, Features and (occasionally) Fallacies reported in Cambridge Newspapers
summarised by Mike Petty



Cambridge 1700-1800
Facts, Features and (occasionally) Fallacies reported in Cambridge Newspapers
summarised by Mike Petty

Hundreds of files such as these have been published on *Internet Archive* where they can be read, downloaded and used freely. The files had been consulted 144,439 times by 20 July 2021 with over 70,000 users during 'lock-down' when libraries and archives were closed <https://archive.org/details/MikesOnlineResources>

Today I use Facebook to share information online

Fenland History on Facebook is a group devoted to Cambridge and the whole of the County – not just the Flat Black bit



Each day posts are seen by more than 10,000 people, most of them in north Cambridgeshire. They have a wealth of knowledge they are delighted to share



Fenland History on Facebook

Public group · 8.3K members

About Discussion Mentorship Announcements Rooms Topics more ▾



Create a public post...



Live video



Photo/Video



Room

Announcements



Mike Petty

8 July 2020 · 🌐

Cambridgeshire Scrapbook ...



About

Fenland History on Facebook is a group hosted by Mike Petty that shares and see about the Cambridgeshire fens, p

... See more

Public

Anyone can see who's in the group and their post.

Visible

Anyone can find this group.

Ely, Cambridgeshire, United Kingdom

General



Rebecca Moya

Requested 6 minutes ago

1,054 friends · 2 mutual friends · 40 friends in group

6 groups in common · 82 other groups

Joined Facebook 13 years ago

Lives in Cambridge, Cambridgeshire

Went to Cromwell Community College



Hasn't answered membership questions



Bảo Long Lê Nguyễn

Requested 4 hours ago

189 groups

Joined Facebook 5 years ago

Lives in Binh Phuoc, Vietnam

Người bán hàng at Nhật bản auto & tractor



Tell me, what is your interest in Fenland?

ok

Recent media

Cambridge: a Chronicle on Facebook

Public group · 871 members

Joined ▾



Edit

Stretham & Grunty Fen on Facebook to 2000

Public group · 1.1K members

Joined ▾

+ Invite

You are most welcome seek and share your information with us.

facebook

You can search the **Fenland History on Facebook Group** for stories and comments

Fenland History on Facebook
Public group · 12.3K members

+ Invite

Browse Manage 4

Community home

shirts hanging across the streets

Like Reply Share 1 d

Dawn Boone
Peter Thatcher it was lovely!



Like Reply Share 5 h

Peter Thatcher
Dawn Boone amazing

Like Reply Share 3 h

Stuart Porter
Mad isn't it, local jobs for local people?
A person that came up with that idea would probably get a medal today so people didn't have to leave a massive carbon footprint by commuting miles a day.

Like Reply Share 1 d Edited

Sharon Green Inkell
My Nana and Mum both worked there many years ago

Like Reply Share 1 d

Sally Gipp
Mick Gipp mum, did you see this one?

Like Reply Share 1 d

Fenland History on Facebook

Mike Petty
Admin Group expert · 1 d ·

Burberry's, Littleport – Ely and the Fens Memory Lane, Revisited

Burberry's set up a factory in 1971 taking over the former Hope Brothers' factory which had been set up by Thomas Peacock in 1881.

When the News visited in September 1985 it provided work for about 150 people some of whom travelled from as far away as Downham Market each day in a company bus. They manufactured at least 14 styles of coat in a very traditional way, no computerised cutting, it was all done by hand.

In... See more



Fenland History on Facebook, hosted by Mike Petty, is a gateway to an online collection of books and articles, newspapers and cuttings. map... See more

Mike's post

Like Reply Share 23 h

Frances McGee
Diane Butler I left in 79 and didn't go back till 95/96

Like Reply Share 23 h

Carolyn Garner
My mum worked there for years from leaving school till about mid 70's I think, apart from when I was born.

Like Reply Share 23 h

Janet Heaps
It was Hope Brothers when I worked there I left in 1964 to get married

Like Reply Share 22 h

Gloria Martin
Janet Heaps me too got married in December 1964

Like Reply Share 20 h

Imogen Collis
I was very proud of my Burberry overcoat.

Like Reply Share 22 h

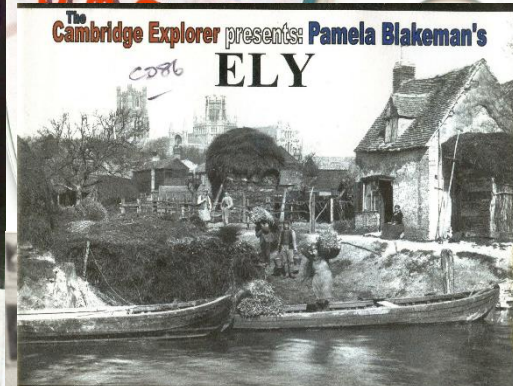
Jean Sargent
I started working there in 1971. Was on the shirt side for a short while then moved over the road to the Burberrys rain coats. I was there for about 10 years.

Like Reply Share 22 h

Sylvia Pearson
I worked at Burberry and it was started about 1964 it was across the road in the hall that is now flats. Myself and my friend Carol were one of the first ones to start

Like Reply Share 20 h

Susan Ward
My mum, Ann Waddelow from Little Downham, worked at Hope Brothers shirt factory when she left school. She biked there and back in all weathers every day.



I have been privileged to meet and been able to assist thousands of folk to discover Cambridgeshire 'history' and help them share it with others. Now I have worked to ensure their researches are not lost





THE HISTORY OF THE PARISH OF STRETHAM,

In the County of Cambridgeshire.

A LECTURE

GIVEN TO THE

Stretham Branch of the Women's
Institute, on October 3rd, 1922.

BY

Rev. S. Stewart Stitt, M.A.

Formerly Scholar of Pembroke College,
— Cambridge, Rector of Stretham. —

PRICE 4D.

The Proceeds of the Sale will be given to the
Organ Fund.

RAL HISTORY OF STRETHAM. Interesting Account by the Rev. S. S. Stitt. ANCIENT RECORD.

An extremely interesting account of the history of Stretham was given recently by the Rector of the Parish (the Rev. S. Stewart Stitt) in a lecture to the local branch of the Women's Institute, and is now published as a booklet at the price of 4d. in aid of the Church organ fund.

The writer begins by explaining the meaning of the name Stretham—"Street Home," or "Home at the Street." He carries his readers back in imagination to the time when huge Mammoth elephants tramped over the Fens and enormous winged lizards terrified the ancient dwellers, and draws a mental picture of Stretham in the days when the Roman legions controlled our land. Proceeding, he says:—

The Akeman Street was a Roman Road leading out from Cambridge.

While I was at Stretham School the Headmaster arranged for a lecture on the village's history by a previous vicar to be retyped by the County Librarian's Secretary. Today the original is online with a Millennium and other histories

Stretham Field Gate, on the old 1836 Survey Map the ridge of the road became distinctly visible on the right of the present road and was plain until well into the Village of Stretham, whence it crossed the South Eastern corner of the Grass Field near the Cricket Field, then the Wilburton Road to the South-East corner of the Ten Acre Field, and joined the Ely Road by the Mill Way. Thence it ran in a straight line across the Eastern end of Grunty Fen, and became a

This brass, stripped of the brass canopies, has now been placed in the South Chapel of the present Church. It has a peculiar interest, as we are told the head dress or wimple is the earliest representation of a square one, (probably they had just begun to have a knowledge of starch) and the wedding ring is on the right hand, which we are told was in accordance with the usage of the Saxon Rite.

Dame Joan Swan was the mother of John and Richard Ryplingham, who were Rectors of Stretham in 1438. John held the benefice for only a few months, apparently having received other preferment, as we read of one John Ryplingham, D.D., Rector of St. Martin's, Vintry, who died about 1519. He was succeeded in the said Church of St. Martin in 1508 by one Ralph Ryplingham, who had for his predecessor;—two others intervening, one William Swan, who died about 1456, and who probably was the husband of Dame Joan.

At the foot of the Altar steps in the north wall is a raised tomb under an arch with a Lombardic inscription: "Nichol de Kynbstone: gyst icci, Dieux de Salme: eit: merci: Amen."

Nicholas de Kingston was probably Rector in the time of Edward I, and Founder of the Chancel.

There was another coat of Arms, or probably a hatchment in this part of the Church, the

is down on the South Side of the Altar. Up to the Restoration of the Church in 1876 there was a double piscina of rich carving; but it, too, had gone, and the record of its being there is fast becoming an ancient memory. In 1866 the steeple was repaired, and a new weather cock put up. On November 28th, 1910, a steeplejack went up to the top of the steeple and brought the weather cock down. After it had been repaired



In 1949 I was sent a postcard of my village; it was 'old' when sent. It was one of the cards produced by Coates of Wisbech, now in the Wisbech and Fenland Museum. I have been collecting Cambridgeshire material ever since.





MP0055a



mp0055b



mp0056 126.51



MP0056



mp0056a

Today that postcard can be viewed and downloaded by every child in the village, together with over 4,000 other images

[imageshttps://photos.app.goo.gl/FLZcw9CLY2pXcjt5](https://photos.app.goo.gl/FLZcw9CLY2pXcjt5)



mp0056b



MP0057



mp0165 SN02.21 mp165



mp0165a SN02.20



MP0166



MP0167



MP0168



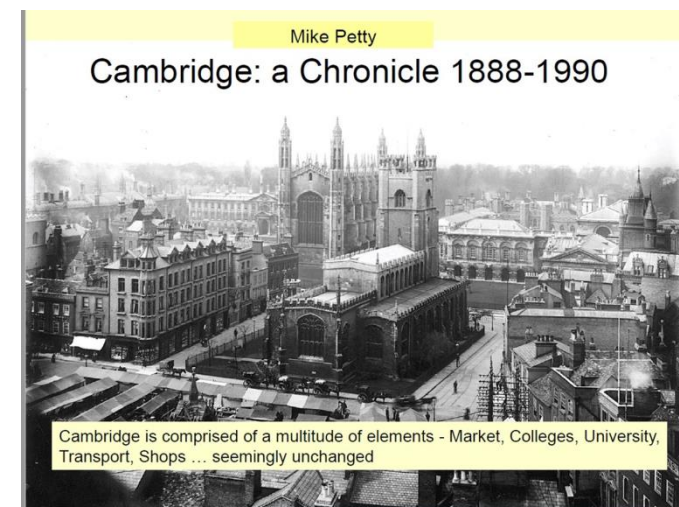
MP0169



MP0171



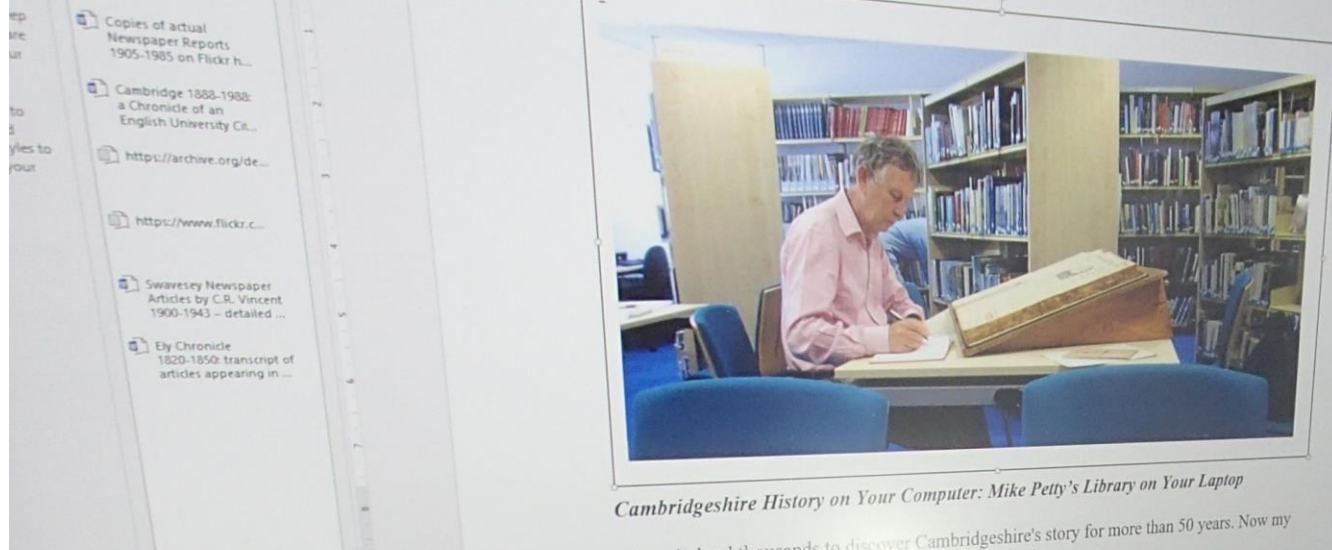
MP0174



History shows that physical Libraries will be lost.
 The material that I have compiled at Stretham is just a fraction of what is already in the Cambridgeshire Collection. It is not wanted by Cambridgeshire Archives.
 Cambridge University Library has offered some of it a home – perhaps in its store on the old Witchford airfield.



William Cole, the great Antiquarian, lamented: 'To give my manuscripts to King's College would be to throw them into a horse pond'. The Stretham pond has been filled in.



Cambridgeshire History on Your Computer: Mike Petty's Library on Your Laptop

4018	F.DT.L02	72.37	71.64		Cambridgeshire Collection
4019	F.DT.L04	218.52			Cambridgeshire Collection
	F.DT.L04	200.81			Cambridgeshire Collection w
4020					2004 - CEN
4021	F.DT.L06	124.66			Cambs Collection area - comp
4022	F.DT.L07	167.38			Cambridgeshire Collection des
	F.DT.L07	135.56			Biography index - Mike Petty e
4023					
4024	F.DT.L07	135.57			Open shelf stock, Milton Road,
4025	F.DT.L07	135.51-52	F.H.L07		Cambridgeshire Collection base i
4026	F.DT.L07	135.53,			Illustrations catalogue entry, Ely &
4027	F.DT.L07	135.54			News index entry, Ely
4028	F.DT.L09	148.84			Cambridgeshire Collection in Centr
	F.DT.L1	225.10	T.G.K4		Cambridgeshire Collection America
4029					collection (do not work 2016)
4030	F.DT.L10	154.32			Cambridgeshire Collection microfilm
4031	F.DT.L11	154.20			Cambridgeshire Collection showing u
4032	F.DT.L12	174.47			Cambridgeshire Collection microfilm r
4033	F.DT.L12	174.48			Cambridgeshire Collection 'Reserved f
	F.DT.L12	175.90			Cambridgeshire Collection open shelves
4034					
4035	F.DT.L12	175.9			Cambridgeshire Collection only comput
	F.DT.L12	175.9			Cambridgeshire Collection microfilm read
4036					
	F.DT.L12				Mike Petty indexing volume of newspapers
4037					

But for the moment it is here at Stretham on shelves, in drawers and on my computer.

It is also here on your tablet or laptop.

You can read and download it from *Google Photos* and *Internet Archive*.

Just search '**Mike Petty Internet Archive**'

Click <https://archive.org/details/MikesOnlineResources>

Check out my website: www.mikepetty.org.uk

email mikepetty13a@gmail.com

phone 01353 648106. Or just ask





I will continue to explore aspects of my home community and still hope to find postcards that have eluded me over the last 70+ years.

The longer you 'research' the more you find there is to learn. That is the fascination of 'local history' *Mike Petty*

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